

A

B I L L

TO

Provide for the relief of Jurors from unnecessary attendance at Courts of Quarter Sessions in Ireland. A.D. 1897.

BE it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

- 5 1.—(1.) The Lord Lieutenant may, when it appears to him desirable for the relief of jurors from unnecessary attendance at quarter sessions, by Order in Council, declare the provisions of this Act to be in force in any specified quarter sessions division as from the date of the order, and the provisions of this Act shall, after the
 10 said date, be in force in such division, and that division shall be a specified division within the meaning of this Act.

Specification of divisions for the purposes of the Act.
 (See 50 & 41 Vict. c. 56 s. 90.)

(2.) Any order made under this section may be revoked by a subsequent order made in the same manner.

- 15 2. Where it is intended to present a bill of indictment at a court of quarter sessions in a specified division, or to proceed at such court with the trial of any person on a bill of indictment previously found, the prescribed notice of such intention shall be lodged by or on behalf of the person having the conduct of the prosecution in the office of the clerk of the peace not later than three clear days
 20 (exclusive of a Sunday) previous to the day appointed for the trial of criminal causes before that court.

Provision for lodging notice of bills of indictment and criminal trials.

- 25 3.—(1.) Where in a specified division no such notice has been so lodged as aforesaid, the clerk of the peace shall forthwith report to the sheriff to that effect, and the sheriff shall thereupon notify in the prescribed manner all jurors summoned to attend the court for the purpose of criminal business that their attendance will not be required.

Jurors to be relieved from attendance in certain cases.

[Bill 160.]

A.D. 1897. — (2.) Every person so summoned and subsequently notified under this section shall be given credit for an attendance as if he had attended in pursuance of the summons.

(3.) Where it is the duty of the clerk of the peace to summon jurors to attend at a court of quarter sessions, the duties imposed by this section upon the sheriff shall be discharged by the clerk of the peace, and it shall not be necessary to make a report to the sheriff.

Power to
adjourn
trials.

4.—(1.) In the case of any person returned for trial, or whose trial has been adjourned to a court of quarter sessions in a specified division where the jurors have been notified under this Act that their attendance will not be required, the chairman or recorder presiding over the court shall adjourn the trial of such person to the next ensuing court of quarter sessions for any division of the county in which the specified division is included or to the next ensuing court of assize for such county, and any recognizance entered into in respect of such trial shall without renewal be valid and binding in respect of the adjourned trial.

(2.) Such chairman or recorder shall have, in addition to all powers already vested in him, power to admit such person to bail until the sitting of the court to which his trial is adjourned.

Rules.
40 & 41 Vict.
c. 86.

5. The power of making rules and orders conferred by section seventy-nine of the County Officers and Courts (Ireland) Act, 1877, shall be exercised for the purpose of carrying this Act into effect.

Definitions.

6. In this Act—

The expression "clerk of the peace" includes clerk of the Crown and peace where the offices have been united;

The expression "sheriff" includes under sheriff; and

The expression "prescribed" means prescribed by rules and orders in pursuance of this Act.

Short title,
and extent of
Act.

7. This Act may be cited as the Quarter Sessions Jurors (Ireland) Act, 1897, and shall extend to Ireland only.

